

Hello Attendees of the Invasive Species Science Team Meeting,

The information below describes two important items: food and field trips. Please take a look, and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I do need you to send me (Geneva_Chong@usgs.gov) an email as soon as possible to tell me:

1. Any special dietary needs you have (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.).
2. What day(s) you will be attending the meeting (Tues. and/or Wed.).
3. What portion(s) of the field trip you will attend (Thurs. horseback ride and/or Rocky Mountain National Park).
4. If you have a rental car that you are willing to drive on Thurs. and how many people you can take in addition to yourself.
5. If you will attend the informal dinner at Tres Margaritas on Tues.
6. If you will attend the beer & brats dinner at the Stohlgren's on Thurs.

Nourishment

BRING YOUR FAVORITE TRAVEL MUG!

We will have food delivered to the meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday, and we will have box lunches and snacks for Thursday's field trip. Tuesday and Wednesday we will have baked goods, coffee, and some bottled juices in the morning and afternoon. For lunches we will have a variety of deli sandwiches and soft drinks. There are also some vending machines located in the Fort Collins Science Center where we will be meeting.

On Tuesday evening anyone who would like should join in an informal dinner at "Tres (3) Margaritas" – a local Mexican restaurant. An alternative activity is attending a Little League game from 5:30-7:30.

On Thursday evening the Stohlgren family (Tom, Cindy, Connor, Shannon, Michael, and Rocky and Boris - the cats) has invited us to their home in Windsor for beer and brats after the field trip.

For the Tuesday and Thursday evening activities we will have maps available at the meeting and people should plan to carpool as much as possible.

Thursday Field Trip

For the Thursday field trips, please be prepared for the variety that Colorado weather has to offer. We may experience hot, sunny conditions one moment and cold hail another. We will be at elevations ranging from almost 6,000' to about 8,000' above sea level. At these elevations it is important to stay hydrated and to protect from exposure (sun, cold, wet, heat, etc.). Please bring/wear:

- personal safety or medical items (e.g., allergy, diabetes, or other medication)
- sunscreen (don't forget for your lips too!)

- water that you can carry with you
- sunglasses
- sun hat and warm hat
- gloves or mittens
- comfortable, sturdy shoes (sneakers are ok, hiking shoes are better)
- long pants (consider bringing long underwear bottoms, especially if you get cold easily)
- a wind- and rain-proof jacket (we can get cheap ponchos if needed)
- comfortable top layers (e.g., non-cotton shirt, fleece or wool sweater, another warm layer)
- anything else you need to stay comfortable and have fun!

Please contact Geneva.Chong@usgs.gov if you have any concerns or need to borrow any of the items listed above.

THURSDAY SCHEDULE:

8:45 Meet in the Lobby of the University Park Holiday Inn

9:00 Depart for the Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch, Loveland: <http://www.sylvandale.com>
(there is a link to a map near the bottom)

10:00 – 11:30 Guided Trail Ride

12:00 – 12:30 Drive up the Big Thompson Canyon, through the town of Estes Park <http://www.estesparkresort.com/> and to the Beaver Meadows picnic area of Rocky Mountain National Park <http://www.nps.gov/romo/index.htm>

Please bring your Annual National Park Pass if you have one (this is a \$50 pass good for one year from purchase at all National Parks).

12:30 – 3:30 Lunch and easy hike in the Beaver Meadows area

5:00 back at the University Park Holiday Inn